REMARKS

In an Office Action dated September 20 2006, the Examiner rejected all claims, and, in particular, rejected claim 8 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,742,797 (Celi). Responsive to the grounds for this rejection, Applicant is amending the claims to cancel claims 1-7, 10-17 and 20. (Claims 9 and 19 had been previously canceled.) Applicant is amending claims 8 and 18 to be more consistent with the subject matter of FIG. 7 and the description of page 10, lines 7-23. FIGs. 3 and 6 of Celi describe the arrangements for allocating and deallocating memory in the absence of over-write errors, and specifically, do not teach or suggest the storage of a separate active busy bit map and a separate active idle bit map in order to permit a new set of linked lists of available memory to be created in case of an over-write error.

For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicant is submitting a copy of page 10, lines 7-23 below:

> FIG. 7 illustrates an additional feature of Applicant's invention. In a system such as this, if the control blocks should be inadvertently overwritten as a result of a program bug, the system is likely to crash. Applicant has found a way of avoiding the situation by providing busy bit maps 710 and idle bit maps 720 having a one-to-one correspondence with the control blocks. Each active busy bit (711,...,712,...,713) represents the beginning of a control block group for active user memory. Each active idle bit (721,...,722,...,723) similarly represents the beginning of a control block group for available user memory. By measuring the difference between consecutive active busy or idle bits, the size of each control block group can be established. From the size of the idle control blocks, an appropriate available memory linked list entry can be generated. The linked list entry in the first control block is only used for idle control block groups. In order to use this feature it is only necessary to initialize a busy bit or an idle bit when memory is allocated or deallocated.
>
> Similarly, if the control blocks have not been overwritten but the busy bit map and/or the idle bit map had been overwritten, then the busy bit map and the idle bit map can easily be constructed from the contents of the control blocks.

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claims 8 and 18, as amended, should be held allowable over the teachings of Celi.

Applicant is also submitting new claims 21 and 22, which claim the subject matter of Applicant's FIG. 7 and page 10, lines 7023. The teachings of this section are believed to be novel and also applicable to memory allocation arrangements without control blocks.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claims 8 and 18, as amended, allow these claims as amended plus newly submitted claims 21 and 22, and pass the application to issue.

If the Examiner feels that a voice or fax contact would help to advance the prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at telephone number 630 469-3575.

Respectfully submitted

A. A. Charles

by Werner Ulrich
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 30810

Date: Dec. 18, 2004